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Reynolds, William (1880-), Collection, 1902, 1913-1919, 1934

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#106 Reynolds, William (1880-), Collection, 1902, 1913-1919, 1934
3 volumes

INTRODUCTION

This collection contains three oversized scrapbooks of clippings and ephemera related to Socialism.

DONOR INFORMATION

The collection was purchased by Special Collections in March 2005 from Daryl B. Van Fleet.

BIOLOGICAL SKETCH

Little is known about the life of W. E. Reynolds. He was born in 1880. He lived in Duluth, Minnesota; Cleveland, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; Lewiston, Idaho; and Jennings, Oklahoma.

According to the Saturday, July 20, 1907 edition of the *Appeal to Reason*, Girard, Kansas, W. E. Reynolds was an old party politician but he switched political parties and joined the Socialist Crusaders sometime between 1896 and 1907. He worked closely with Socialist party organizers in Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma throughout his adult life. He traveled to various states and presented lectures and debates regarding Socialist platforms. He also had studied Karl Marx's philosophy and incorporated some of those thoughts into his lectures.

He wrote news articles and poetry related to laborers for various Socialist publications. He wrote two articles that were published in the *International Socialist Review*: one article was entitled "Wages" in November 1915 and another article, "Capturing Political Power in Oklahoma" in January 1917. (These articles are located in the Haldeman-Julius Collection, 335 In8.)

He was the editor and publisher for the Socialist newspaper, *Labor Leader*, in Duluth Minnesota in 1917. He was relieved of his position as editor of *Labor Leader* because he was too radical in his thoughts from those who had controlling interest in the weekly newspaper. He then took the position as editor and business manager for *Truth*, also in 1917. He left the *Truth* December 28, 1917, reasons unknown, and moved to Ohio. Prior to working in the newspaper industry, he held jobs as a cook, baker, and papermaker.

While Reynolds was in Cleveland, Ohio, he wrote a news column entitled "Gleanings From the Log of an Agitator" for the *Ohio Socialist* in 1918 and "Proletarian Science History" in 1919-1920 for *The Toiler* (supersedes *Ohio Socialist*), and was editor for *Socialist News* in 1919.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The W. E. Reynolds Collection consists of three oversized scrapbooks of Socialist news clippings and ephemera. Scrapbooks #2 and #3 are bound volumes of approximately 150 Socialist newspapers. W. E. Reynolds was also acquainted with another W[illiam]. E[merson]. Reynolds, N.D.D.Tr., who resided in Texas and presented public health lectures on body chemical types. There are a few news clippings, flyers, and ephemera regarding Dr. W. E. Emerson included in Scrapbook #1.

SCRAPBOOKS

Scrapbook #1: Ninety-five (95) pages with mounted ephemera including flyers for various speaking events, Socialist convention ribbons, labor poetry, and many news clippings of Socialist events, activities, and politicians. There are also news clippings and ephemera regarding, that.

Scrapbooks #2 and #3: Bound volumes containing approximately 150 socialist newspapers and tabloids of the 1910s through the early 1920s, and several other related papers and ephemera; issues of *Labor Leader*, May 1, 1917 thru October 5, 1917; *Truth*, October 5, 1917 through December 18, 1917.